AUTHORIZATION, DETERMINATION, DESIGNATION, LOCATION,
5   # LOCKING AND THEFT-SECURITY SYSTEM (here also called lock-loop DSS)

DESCRIPTION

The invention concerns a loop or several loops that can be locked or encrypted

with no, one, or several locks or algorithms. For example, microchips with their

10   transistors are closable current-switching circuits, wherein the transistor is the closing

lock and the electric current circuit is the loop. Each loop and each lock, together as a

unit, carries a number or several numbers registered on the internet, on a mobile phone

portal, or another database, which have indices and functions; the numbers optionally can

be affixed to products or even integrated in them. Carried on, attached to, or integrated in

15   the locks can be one or more transmitters, transponders, or GSM-SIM card chips as radio

interfaces which can emit/receive a signal, possibly encrypted, to the number(s) regis-

tered on the internet, the mobile phone portal, or the like; these can trigger an alarm when

destruction, theft, misappropriation, or the like occurs and also identify the location of the

loop which, however, also can be located with other mobile and/or other stationary radio

20   transmitting/receiving units.

The first stage or level of the security solution is a purely mechanical-visual one:

whether or not the number is or is not destroyed. For policemen, garage managers, and

used car buyers, this is the simplest method of determining the legal owner of a vehicle

(over the Internet). Driving cars with a destroyed or missing number should no longer be

25   possible because one doing so would have much to explain just due to this second

security step.

The second step of the safety solution is that, upon destruction and interruption of

the loops, an alarm always is sent immediately via the internet number to a mobile

telephone, a police center, etc.

Any product equipped with this authorization-, determination-, designation-, authorization-, location-, locking and theft security system can be located, at any time, by various GSM, GPS, W-LAN, etc., network coverages. A vehicle or other product no longer can be moved without authorization of the owner; a physical car key no longer is necessary and cannot be stolen because, via the mobile telephone with a code or a finger-print, the owner at any time can open and start the vehicle or turn off and lock it.

This combination of features – a lockable (intentional as well as unintentional) loop, hat, cap, ball, or box with one, several or no locks, latches, bars, or barriers that carry a (temporal, variable, or encrypted) license number and/or a numerical, alpha-numerical, or just a bar code that can be registered on the internet or a mobile phone portal, and, when destroyed by theft or criminal force and/or with any other minor physical sensory influence, triggers an alarm – can be used for or mounted on chains or regular locks themselves, (motor)bicycles (through the spokes, hubs, gear shifts, etc.); kickboards; cars; boats; airplanes; real property; or suitcases; cassettes; mobile tele-phones; computers; laptops; TVs; projectors; (electrical) devices as well as any cable or (handheld) weapons; clocks/watches; clothing; (chastity) belts and naturally human or animal limbs; plants; as well as screws, nuts, nails, needles, threads, buttons, packages, housings; and ski bindings. It can be equipped with an electrical circuit with connection or interruption to electrical (switching) devices and also can carry a transmitter and/or a chip which sends an (encrypted) signal to the number registered in the internet or on the mobile phone portal or other database.

The arrangement of the number, lock, and loops as well as the transmitters and/or chips easily can be constructed and configured such that they function without damage for years but, with slight damage or injury, are destroyed or have another function such as triggering an alarm. The loop, the number, the electrical circuit thus also can form a unit with the number such as, e.g., a watch face. The lock/loop itself can form such a unit as well as any other arrangement with a loop, e.g. a screw, nut, nail, needle, thread, button, rod, rivet, ring, plate, ball or box with loop and number. Also, a ball or box can be locked additionally with a normal key system with or without radio transmission; from

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the ball or box cables emerge as loops which have a protected transmitter/transponder or transmitter inside the ball or box itself.

The original principle of the lockable loop with internet number is similar to that described in the known patent application for safety bindings, WO 02/062432 (U.S. Publ. Pat. Appl. No. 2004/0041365 A1):

> "A turning folding lever which after correct attachment is turned over a projecting loop 37 of clamping part 15 and locked by means of a small lock 100 . . .. With the small lock, the separated clamping part and clamped part can be prevented from being brought together again; in this way, one has an excellent mechanical theft-proofing device. On the loop and in a highly visible place on that safety binding or interface also is placed a numeric, alphanumeric, or bar code 39 which is registered in a list 40 of the manufacturer on the internet and where the owner/ legally recognized purchaser is granted the possibility of protecting his property himself or to have it protected with his name. In this way, stolen safety bindings/ interfaces can be identified quickly, because the highly visible loop and associated code are destroyed when the lock is criminally removed. In this and other ways, insurance companies can have recourse to sanctions in case of an accident because presently these insurers want to have each new accident with the interface statisti- cally proven; we are prepared to accept only registered accidents as real accidents because any snowboard accident could be verified in the statistics in connection with the new interface or otherwise, which would be wrong. Also, very simply and easily, illicit Asian or Eastern Europe imitations can be prevented."

Coins, paper currency, and credit cards likewise can be equipped with a (lockable) loop, microchip, or transponder and store additional information about time, place and past owners. On the credit card all personal data are accessible. When coins, paper cur- rency, or credit cards are damaged or destroyed unintentionally, the data and values can be restored or, in the case of criminal destruction, blocked until an explanation can be made. The coins, paper currency, or credit cards therefore can be officially devalued or valued.

The loop can be locked or opened with (a screw and/or nut, with) a lock, with a loop or lock, or be locked/encrypted serially or in parallel or a combination of these.

The lock can be affixed to, on, at, for, in place of the loop and vice versa.

The loop has a brightly colored finish. A light or sound signal to the loop or the EPC tag indicates connection to the radio interface (mobile phone). The number on the

loop is engraved with a 1 mm or 0.5 or 0.3 or 0.1 or 0.05 or 0.03 or 0.001 mm laser (all the way through or only partially).

For bicycles, a (clip with) loop is fastened to or in the frame or affixed to or integrated with other components (e.g., hubs, axles, rims, saddle, steering mechanism, grips, brakes, tire), which themselves can be loops or even locks.

The lockable loop with internet number can be integrated into all products as a RFID-EPC tag (for data security reasons, for safety reasons for the dealers, and many other reasons).

EXPLANATION OF NOVELTY RELATIVE TO THE STATE OF THE ART

Between the lock-loop (locking) and only the radio feature exists a rather large difference. The LL feature is developed further by the radio feature (calling to the number on the internet). Both are inventive and new, as pointed out by the following. All new products, including those with only a radio feature and a number on the internet, infringe this application, even laptops and also EPC tags, for which here follows proof on the basis of mobile phones, etc. Regardless, certainly every self-lockable product with a number to call on in the internet falls under this patent application.

Regarding laptops, they now have the same functions, features, and chips (and the same molecules) as mobile phones, but that such a signal transmission (detecting, etc., locking, or disconnecting) also can be done to laptops equipped with Centrino™ chipsets; certainly not for this purpose only is the application directed but also for laptops, bindings/linkages, vehicles, etc. Mobile phones never had such a (LL) radio feature to transmit to themselves a locking signal, not to mention track themselves; in the case of laptops, etc., they did not yet have it, and now they have it (with Centrino™ chipsets and Theft Guard™ software in BIOS), as claimed here which is new for laptops. The (LL) radio feature is new, and it is new with laptops; with presently available (WAP) mobile phones, such a (intentional locking/opening and then tracking) signal transmission still does not exist at all, although it probably can be made available soon (by us). A patent does, after all, claim that which is new! Anyone (such as, e.g., a laptop manufacturer) who asserts that the (LL) radio feature on laptops is state-of-the-art is presumptuous. It is

and remains new even if it functions with the same molecules, frequencies, and features as mobile phones and achieves the best solution with Theft Guard. As formulated, it is new and inventive, the same as with Centrino™ laptops.

I could formulate the claim otherwise: .(LL) radio feature with/via UMTS and/or. 4th generation (4G) mobile phones. This does not exist yet. No, it does, because the frequencies were already existing and are state of the art like molecules. So, what can still be patented if everything consists of molecules and waves? Nothing. Fortunately, by definition, it must be possible that everything (every feature combination) that is new, inventive, and commercially marketable can be patented. Lock-Loops with numbers on Centrino™ laptops which send a signal to an internet number are new. In addition, this LL feature is new with 4G mobile phones. All lockable (but not non-lockable) traceable currently available mobile phones, as well as EPC tags, belong to this invention.

In particular, my new, small mini-invention validly can claim 4G mobile phones with the LL feature because my application claims also the LL feature for electrical devices, such as computer and mobile phones, as well as all new products with the LL feature. Without an alternative, I have contacted IBM Switzerland and Swisscom Mobile for this reason. I need not again ask a mobile phone manufacturer for other new subsequent generation developments or ask them to share their information because, simply, all new products, even next-generation products, with the LL feature fall within the scope of protection afforded by this patent application. I add this here as a certain declaration to this Loop-Internet number patent.

WAP mobile phones and electronic foot shackles for home confinement could be considered as state-of-the-art and affect the novelty of the lockable loop with number on the internet. However, these foot shackles scarcely have a number on themselves, as is the case with the loops or laptops or bicycles and vehicles as a means for monitoring and above all deterring theft. Anyway, these electronic shackles cannot be locked, or especially unlocked, with one's own radio device; they are the pure opposite. Only other, authorized persons can unlock them (without triggering an alarm).

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It is completely logical and comprehensible, and also not unfair, that new laptops with the W-LAN feature, new 4G mobile phones as well as current mobile phones, and EPC tags with this LL feature require a license. All new products with these new features infringe the claims of this patent. Even just (new) self-locking microchips with Internet number probably could be claimed. (EPC tags on cola cans – except the new, next-generation ones which probably will never come about because the present generation already is the last and best) – are not new, but EPC tags in clothes like trousers for data protection and authorization reasons surely are. If only I could have claimed a few less features in contrast to (intentionally as well as unintentionally) self lockable loops with a number on the internet.

Certainly, also covered here are even presently available mobile phones which could be locked (by one's own authorization), for data protection and authorization reasons, for legally permissible locations. Such precise features do not yet exist with mobile phones. Nevertheless, WAP-mobile phones in existence before this invention are not covered, but licenses must be paid as soon as one can lock them with all the lock-loop functions.

Quite surely, Theft Guard™ of Phoenix locks laptops, so laptop manufacturers must pay royalties for the new lock-loop functions. This is exactly the same as with mobile phones and EPC tags where the patent claims self-executed locking (for reasons of data security and authorization). Even self-locking EPC tags for data protections reasons did not previously exist.

EXPLANATION OF INVENTIVE ACTIVITY

The following explanation also should prove that, for laptops with the new radio feature (with the Intel Centrino™ Pentium M processor), my previously submitted patent application was not only new but also inventive.

Originally, the DSS solution was made for bindings/links in which, for protection against theft, a loop can be locked with a small lock. The security that this provided seemed too little; it was found that better protection could be achieved with a number on the loop because, in the case of theft and/or destruction of the loop, a thief having the

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product without an intact number would be in great need of an explanation for towards colleagues, officials, etc. For bicycles, a similar solution – with a ring affixed to the frame and having a number registered on the internet – was available under the name CYCLO. Because a (lockable) loop is no (not lockable) ring, this originally was

5   included in the interface safety binding patent as a dependent claim.

I then recognized and discovered that an electrical circuit could be placed in the loop for alarm purposes, that a transmitter for alarm signal transmission could be attached, and even that a microchip, which itself is comprised of electric circuits and/or loops, could be included. I realized that the transmission/transmitter solution of a chip

10   with a number on the internet is also a feature of the loop with number on the internet, which therefore can be used in new products as the basis for further lock-loop based DSS and infinitely many other features. Other products (electronic like non-electronic) which do not yet have such a transmission/transmitter solution (like laptops, WAP-mobile phones, projectors, etc.) also can be equipped with one so that they also can be integrated

15   with this lock-loop DSS feature. Thereby also was invented the Centrino™ Pentium M processor radio feature also for laptops. QED.

The loop-internet number radio feature alone, however, also is new in the case of new laptops, etc., as well as with current mobile phones and EPC tags in respect to the important abilities to lock (and track) these devices for privacy purposes, data protection,

20   etc.

After the filing of a patent application on 13 June 2002, Swisscom Mobile was approached regarding vehicle and laptop tracking systems. In autumn 2002, Daimler-Chrysler was shown and, in December 2002, IBM Switzerland was contacted regarding integration of a small Lock-Loop box into laptops as a locking and detection solution,

25   which was thought to sell as little box. Two months later, Intel unexpectedly provided via its Centrino™ radio feature the basis for the Lock-Loop box and, less than three months after that, Phoenix Technologies via its Theft Guard™ product introduced software needed to run lock-loop box. N.B., I had filed on all features of this Lock-Loop box as early as 13 June 2002, i.e., on the one hand, the necessary radio feature and, on the

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other hand, the software locking feature for locking. Naturally, it also needs an internet web-site, hotline, etc.

A patent application for only a transmitter in a laptop probably also is inventive, but on one hand, other than W-Lan Centrino™ chips, I am not aware of such integrated radio systems in laptops (because all previous ones were only plug-in cards), and, on the other hand, Intel, Phoenix Technologies, etc., and every other laptop manufacturer such as, e.g., IBM, did not think to patent such a solution. Last but not least, if another inventor already filed for such a patent before me, Intel or IBM and all other laptop manufacturers certainly would have found this patent and shown it to me. Anyway, this "transmitter in laptop" is a different feature from "loop with transmitter to a number on the internet"; therefore, laptop tracking services must pay me, as well as any other inventor, licenses. Laptops with radio transmitters in the PCMCIA slots or with plug-in cards unfortunately do not infringe this invention, because they are not firmly installed transmitters and are state of the art. However, this fact convinces me all the more that Centrino™ laptop tracking services (will) infringe this patent.

Truly, I have claimed with the DSS not merely a theft-security system with a loop and a number on the Internet. If one examines all claims in the application, one sees an infinitely large number of functions (locking, blocking, connecting, informing, implementing, managing, etc.) for mobile phones and laptops. Therefore, the counterargument that Centrino™ laptops having no DSS nullify my loop-internet number transmission claim is invalid. Regardless, in the future, all laptops also will have the Theft Guard™ product and then additionally violate this DSS lock feature.

In the worst case, I also can make even a correct "sophisticated" twisting of words to strengthen my assertions made here. The first two lines in my first patent claim read: Theft-security system consisting of a loop lockable with a lock or one or more loops lockable with several locks ... (which as a unit carries a number registered on the internet). "Theft security system," I was greatly annoyed that my patent attorney Mr. Spierenburg had formulated it in such a way. But now I can also live with this very well, because ultimately many functions on laptops only involve assuring that information

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cannot be stolen. Transistors and microchips are nothing but closable (or lockable) and openable circuits or loops. Therefore, the transistor in the chip as a lock closes and locks circuits or loops precisely as I had formulated it in the first two lines of my first claim. No wonder I was so overjoyed when it became clear to me with the chips that these chips

5   themselves, in the true sense of the word, consist of loops (circuits) and locks (transistors) and in addition precisely could themselves send the signal to the number on the internet and also equally still carry the number literally in themselves.

I hope that you will agree with my explanations and also find that I invented my loop internet number radio feature for laptops. However, this still does not make it

10   entirely clear whether this is inventive, because WAP cell phones also already possessed the same loop-internet number radio feature. This is or was, however, for cell phones which (in the case of the loops) function with the same molecules, waves and frequencies as laptops. So something with the same molecules, waves and frequencies (also in the case of the loops) cannot be invented or one is not acting inventively. It (including in the

15   case of loops) must be invented for another feature or with another combination of features in order to be inventive. Laptops already are/have another feature or another combination of features than with/in the case of cell phones only because they have a different name and also could not communicate directly on the internet (had no WAP, no GSN or no (W-LAN) transponders or had no antennas) and are equipped with some other

20   functions wherefore it is already inventive for that reason. QED 2.

Note that the first cell phone with a W-LAN feature similar to that in Centrino™ laptops was introduced by Motorola only at the beginning of 2003. Did Motorola also need to pay me licenses? Yes, because this new feature did not yet exist before I had just invented it. This is precisely the same thing as I have already written above with the 4G

25   mobile phones regarding novelty. Therefore, actually all new products (even without radio or locking feature) which have a loop with a number on the internet must pay me licenses, because I have patented it and have repeatedly so stated. The calculation logistics necessary for this is childishly simple. Every product receives an EPC tag, and licenses must be paid to me for this.

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CENTRAL FEATURES AND CATEGORIES

This patent application contains claims for lockable loops with numbers on the internet for products like laptops with Centrino™ W-LAN function and for theft-

5   protection and for locking and tracking of the device, as well as the same functions for EPC tags, mobile phones, standalone solutions for vehicles (including motorcycles and bicycles), and also naturally bindings/linkages and the like. For better comprehensibility, the Lock-Loop patent (like every one) is divided into two categories and outlined with the following features newly established by us:

10   Apparatus:

  – loop (chip) with number (with other information)

  – number in database (internet and over mobile telephone accessible to all, etc.)

  – the loop itself, lockable and openable (mechanically, electronically, locally, temporally, legally, or a combination of these, etc.)

15   – visible number (on internet, mobile phone-display, or product, e.g., as a serial number)

Method:

  – sending and receiving numbers (with other information as well through a transponder, i.e., the radio feature)

20   – comparison of the (loop) numbers and information in database (number)

  – if number (is destroyed or) identified in database characterized: alarm signal (or locking of the loop, i.e. Lock-Loop feature or other function such as tracking of the loop over GSM, GPS, or regular radio)

25   Only if someone applied for an identical patent with the same radio or even LL feature, e.g., for WAP-mobile phones and all other products, in the case of laptops would this patent already have been granted to someone else. On the other hand, in the case of laptops, the radio feature as well as the LL feature cannot be designated as state-of-the-art. Naturally, someone could have applied for the radio feature, etc., only for laptops.

Then it could even be that the laptop manufacturer must pay licenses twice or three times for similar, even theft-proof systems with slightly different functions.

I cannot be reproached for not having mentioned with which products this patent can find use. On the one hand, a broad assortment of products is enumerated; on the other hand, I cannot know in which products these inventive features and functions can be incorporated or which products still do not have such patent protection, like apparently the laptops. For example, I was unaware that locking EPC tags had no patent protection.

Of course this invention is uncommonly broad and, ultimately, even WAP-mobile phones will be covered, because I thought of the loop-internet number invention, and described it in my other patent applications, as early as 1998 when no WAP-mobile phone was yet marketed. Nobody probably earlier patented a WAP-mobile phone with tracking and locking feature; however, I no longer can demand licenses from them.

Additionally there are (still) no mobile phones that one can lock (himself) and track simultaneously over a GSM network. To be sure, with its settings a cellular phone (not just the SIM card) can be locked if the PIN code is incorrectly entered three times, but, as in the case of laptops, the device is gone because it still cannot be tracked.

A patent attorney called my attention to other certain eventualities, that possibly someone else, or certainly the industry, already might have applied for a patent on this. As already stated above, Phoenix Technologies, Intel, Swisscom Mobile and IBM Switzerland knew of nothing like this. Intel has no interest in applying for a patent for the laptop manufacturers, or it may have forgotten or overlooked filing such an application and selling it with the Centrino™ function, because Intel produces only chips but not laptops. The laptop manufacturers themselves did not think of patenting it when they were offered the chance to buy and integrate the Centrino™ function at the time when I had already made my invention and filed it.